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General Assembly

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Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 55 (*a*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/64/422/Add.1)]

64/208. Development cooperation with middle-income countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations major international conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] as well as the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions,

Reaffirming its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007, entitled "Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", in which it recognized that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies,

Recalling its resolution 63/223 of 19 December 2008,

Emphasizing that middle-income countries must take primary responsibility for their own development, and that their national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of middle-income countries, while taking into account their specific national conditions,

Noting that national averages based on criteria such as per capita income do not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of middle-income countries, and recognizing the significant diversity of middle-income countries,

Recognizing that, despite the achievements and efforts of middle-income countries, a significant number of people are still living in poverty and inequalities remain, and that further investment in social services and economic opportunities are needed in order to reduce those inequalities,

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[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

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Recognizing also the actions that middle-income countries have taken to address their particular challenges and the needs of their people, and recognizing the need for further international efforts to support middle-income countries in this regard,

Acknowledging the negative effects of the current global financial and economic crisis on the development efforts of middle-income countries, which are vulnerable to external shocks,

Expressing concern that some middle-income countries are highly indebted and face increased challenges to their long-term debt sustainability,

Recognizing that climate change is one of the challenges to the sustainable development of middle-income countries,

Taking note of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid,[1] El Salvador[2] and Windhoek,[3] and the regional conference on the theme "Increasing the competitiveness of African middle-income countries", held in Cairo,[4]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in that regard underlines the importance of international support, through various forms, that is well aligned with national priorities to address the development needs of middle-income countries;

3. *Acknowledges* the efforts made and successes achieved by many middle-income countries to eradicate poverty and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global and regional development and economic stability;

4. *Also acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

5. *Recognizes* the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries with a view to supporting their development efforts, including in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation;

6. *Invites* the United Nations development system, in particular the funds and programmes, and at the regional level, in accordance with their respective mandates, to improve support, as appropriate, to middle-income countries and to improve coordination and exchange of experiences with other international organizations, international financial institutions and regional organizations in this field as well as to align the programming of its activities more closely with national development strategies while targeting specific existing and emerging needs of middle-income countries;

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[1] See A/62/71-E/2007/46, annex.

[2] See A/62/483-E/2007/90, annex.

[3] See A/C.2/63/3, annexes I and II.

[4] Held on 11 and 12 March 2008 to discuss how the World Bank and the African Development Bank could better align their services to the needs of the middle-income countries in Africa.

[5] A/64/253.

7. *Invites* the international community, including international financial institutions, to further strengthen their support to the development efforts of middle-income countries through targeted technical assistance, provision of resources, technology transfer and capacity-building, as appropriate, while taking into account their national priorities and development policies;

8. *Acknowledges* that official development assistance is still essential for a number of middle-income countries and that it has a role to play in targeted areas, taking into account the needs and domestic resources of these countries;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to further undertake timely, appropriate and targeted measures to address the new and additional challenges that the current economic and financial crisis has imposed on middle-income countries, on a case-by-case basis, based on the specific needs and national priorities of each of those countries;

10. *Underlines* the need for sustained efforts towards achieving debt sustainability in middle-income countries in order to avoid a debt crisis, and to that end notes and encourages further efforts by international financial institutions to enhance facilities for them;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in its provisional agenda, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", a sub-item entitled "Development cooperation with middle-income countries".

66th plenary meeting
21 December 2009